

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 03 2006

Appl. No. 09/450,023
Response to Office Action of May 18, 2006
Amdt. Dated October 3, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for bidding by vendors of customized goods or services, comprising steps of:

receiving a plurality of vendor records ~~via~~ into a computer ~~system network~~, the vendor records corresponding to each of a plurality of vendors and having vendor capability data identifying a plurality of capabilities for said vendor to provide a customized good or service;

each buyer using the system identifying a plurality of vendors for inclusion in a pool of vendors, every vendor pool being associated with a corresponding buyer based upon the buyer identification prior to analysis of any job data pertaining to a job for which bids are sought by or on behalf of the buyer;

~~in a pool of vendors, each of said vendor records having vendor identifier data representing a vendor, and vendor capability data identifying a plurality of capabilities for said vendor to provide a customized good or service, wherein the plurality of vendor records are associated with at least one vendor pool or more than one of a plurality of established vendor pools, each vendor pool being associated with a corresponding buyer and having a plurality of vendor records;~~

receiving a job data from or on behalf of at least one buyer, said job data including ~~having a buyer identifier data, and~~ a job descriptor data which specifies a plurality of

Appl. No. 09/450,023
Response to Office Action of May 18, 2006
Amdt. Dated October 3, 2006

characteristics of said customized good or service for which said buyer wishes a price quote or bid;

automatically comparing via a computer processor said vendor records to said job data, wherein said comparing includes comparing ~~each of~~ said plurality of characteristics for said customized good or service with corresponding plural capabilities for vendors ~~each vendor only~~ from the pool of vendors associated with said buyer;

automatically identifying via a computer processor at least one subset from the pool of vendors as qualified for receiving an invitation for bid, based on said comparison;

selectively transmitting a solicitation to only selected members from the pool of vendors;

receiving bid response data from at least one of said vendors which received said solicitation, said bid response data identifying each of the vendors from which it was received and a bid price; and

outputting to said buyer at least one of said bid response data.

Claims 2-26 (Cancelled)